UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

2015-2016
season of events

Voice Studies at the University of Toronto presents

**Singers and the Spoken Word with Michael Albano**
Additional Information

September, 22, 2015 at 12:10pm
Walter Hall

**PROGRAMME**

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| Brave warriors, Clifford and Northumberland from *King Henry VI* | Cristina Lanz |
| Excerpt from *Company* | Korin Thomas-Smith |
| The check out line | Jennifer Madronich |
| Excerpt from *Mass Appeal* | Matthew Snowdon |

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| **Inside the Singers Studio: Malcolm Balk**<br>Alexander Technique Instructor | **Sept 26 \| 10am-12pm** |
| **Music and Poetry: Fall Baroque Academy Chamber Music Recital** | **Sep 27 \| 7:30 pm** |
| **Graduate Students Perform (MMus and DMA)** | **Sept 29 \| 12:10pm** |
| **Opera Division: The Fatal Gaze** | **Thu Oct 1 \| 7:30 pm**<br>**Fri Oct 2 \| 7:30 pm** |

**MICHAEL PATRICK ALBANO**

Michael Patrick Albano is the resident stage director of the opera programme at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music, where he has staged over forty operas including the Canadian premieres of Debussy's *L'Enfant Prodigue*, Paisiello's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, Britten's *Paul Bunyan* and Kulesha's *The Last Duel*.

Mr. Albano's directorial credits include *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* for the New York City Opera, *Le Comte Ory* for the Manhattan School of Music, *Le Nozze di Figaro* for the Yale School of Music, *L' Elisir d'amore* for Opera Hamilton, *La Belle Hélène* for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Verdi's *La Traviata* for the Opera Festival of New Jersey, *The Gondoliers* for the Brevard Festival and a new dialogue version of *Die Fledermaus* for the Kentucky Opera.

For the Canadian Opera Company he has directed *La Bohème*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *Swoon*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and a new production of *Così fan tutte* for the COC's Young Artist program.

In addition to his directorial assignments, Mr. Albano is a frequent contributor to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, for which he has devised the documentaries *Love Letters, Wit, Wisdom and Song* and *Edward and Mrs. Simpson*. He has written and directed *An Evening with Noel Coward*, starring John Neville for Toronto's CentreStage which was subsequently broadcast over the CBC's Arts National.

An accomplished librettist, Mr. Albano has written four original children's opera librettos; *The Very Last Green Thing*, *The Thunder of Horses* (based upon a Blackfoot Indian legend) and *The Enchantment of Dreams* - commissioned & performed by the Opera Theatre of St. Louis and the Washington Opera. In 2005, *A Dickens of a Christmas* was commissioned & premiered by the Canadian Childrens' Opera Chorus.

Additional writing includes *Gianni* (based on the life of the baroque composer, Giovanni Pergolesi) for Opera Lyra, *The Last Duel* (with music by Gary Kulesha) for MusicCanada 2000 and *Loss of Eden* (based upon the lives of Charles and Anne Lindbergh) which was premiered in June of 2002 by the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, subsequently repeated in Minneapolis and broadcast over National Public Radio.

Mr. Albano's interest in the development of original opera librettos has led to a graduate course in operatic composition at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music as well as his involvement for the past twenty years as resident dramaturge for the Tapestry New Opera Works annual composer/librettist laboratory. His latest librettos include *Rob Ford, the Opera*, *Antigone* and *Encounters* for the University of Toronto's Student Composer Collective as well as *Laura's Cow, The Legend of Laura Secord*, commissioned by the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus, presented by LUMINATO in June of 2012. His most recent scripts include *Footsteps in Campbell House* presented last season at Toronto's historic Campbell House and *Fall River; The Legend of Lizzie Borden*.